

dating violence as a definition of domestic violence under Federal law. My efforts would be fruitless without the help of citizens and organizations nationwide. Liz Claiborne, Inc. is one of the organizations that has taken a leadership role in educating teens about teen dating violence through its "Love is Not Abuse" curriculum designed for 9th or 10th graders. I have been pleased to support those efforts to promote this curriculum throughout the country this past spring.

I commend the company not only on this endeavor but its newest effort to partner with the National Domestic Violence Hotline and create the first-ever National Teen Dating Violence Hotline. The hotline will be operated by the National Domestic Violence Hotline and will focus on teens and young adults up to the age of 24. Although there are national hotlines for adults, teens have special needs and require a different approach to dealing with their issues and privacy concerns.

Time to Talk Day should not be the only day to talk about how we can prevent domestic and dating violence. We must work hard to educate our children how to live in healthy relationships to prevent the cycle of violence from being repeated in the future.

#### LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. Each Congress, Senator KENNEDY and I introduce hate crimes legislation that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society. Likewise, each Congress I have come to the floor to highlight a separate hate crime that has occurred in our country.

On July, 29, 2006, in San Diego at an annual gay pride festival 3 gay men were assaulted. During the festival, 3 men with baseball bats began yelling anti-gay remarks and a fight broke out. Two of the victims were hit in the head with a baseball bat and a third victim was stabbed. In the past 32 years the annual gay pride festival has often been the focus of anti-gay protesters, many times leading to violence.

I believe that the government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

#### REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, this year marks the 60th anniversary of Philippine-United States diplomatic relations and friendship. The partnership of our two nations is bound by several

battles dating back to World War II, and continues today with the war on terrorism. Those who continue to pay the ultimate sacrifices do so in the defense of freedom and the democratic way of life.

During World War II, Filipinos fought side by side with Americans in defense of Bataan and Corregidor, fighting a common enemy. Today, we face a different battle—the war on terrorism—a battle being fought and won in the Philippines. At this moment in many parts of the world, little children, innocent children are crying in pain. Many of these children are being killed from mines and explosives mainly because older men do not know how to discuss peace. They know only how to discuss war, hatred, and death.

A month ago, together with the senior officers of the Republic of Philippines Armed Forces, I flew to Zamboanga on the Island of Mindanao. The main element of the mission was to inspect the joint Philippine and United States Armed Forces, and to receive a report on their activities. However, the event that impressed me most was the simple ceremony celebrating the presentation of 185 electrification projects to governors, chieftains, and leaders of various villages and towns in the many islands of Mindanao.

These island villages and towns never had electricity. Children had to study by candlelight. For the first time, these communities have electricity in their homes. Children can spend more time learning. Parents can use sewing machines and other power tools to make products to bring to market. And, communities can use computers to surf the Web and connect to the world.

The ceremony began with Asalamalaykum, and a prayer thanking Allah, recited by the Imam of Zamboanga. He was followed by a Christian minister, who read scripture from the Bible. Thereafter, children performed their traditional Muslim dance, welcoming us with such warmth, joy, and tranquility. While Christians and Muslims in other parts of the world are killing each other, to see the scene in Zamboanga, where Muslims and Christians are sitting together, breaking bread together, was a deep inspiration. It demonstrates to me that under proper leadership, miracles can happen, and miracles do happen.

In Mindanao, there is a demonstration of hope. The joint military forces of our two nations have demonstrated that while you need an iron fist to combat terrorism, you also need to extend a hand of friendship to win their hearts and minds. When you work together, when you cooperate, when you consult, when you speak of peace and hope, miracles can happen. If the rest of the world did the same thing, children would not be screaming in pain.

Of all the aid that we provide the Republic of the Philippines, 60 percent is being spent in Mindanao to reinforce efforts to secure a lasting peace, and to

build a better life for the people of Mindanao. More than 22,000 former Moro National Liberation Front combatants are now small-scale commercial farmers, earning incomes through farming corn, rice, and seaweed. An additional 6,500 former combatants have been trained to produce high-value crops, such as finfish and bananas. In partnership with the private sector, 6,500 households in 227 remote communities are now equipped with solar-powered, renewable energy systems.

The ties that bind our two nations are based on the foundations of freedom and democracy. The work conducted today along with the economic opportunities and education provided by the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and in conjunction with the United States Government continues to pave the way toward a better quality of life and stability for the children and region of Mindanao.

Mr. President, I commend to my colleagues the text of an August 2006 paper entitled "Securing Peace in Mindanao through Diplomacy, Development, and Defense," written by the American Embassy in Manila.

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent on Senate business yesterday when the Senate voted on the nomination of Francisco Augusto Besosa to be a U.S. district judge for the District of Puerto Rico. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of Mr. Besosa's nomination.

#### FOREIGN CORRUPTION AND OIL

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, last month, on August 10, President Bush announced a new U.S. initiative to combat corruption around the world. He named it a "National Strategy to Internationalize Efforts Against Kleptocracy." In introducing this initiative, President Bush said:

High-level corruption by senior government officials, or kleptocracy, is a grave and corrosive abuse of power and represents the most invidious type of public corruption. It threatens our national interest and violates our values. It impedes our efforts to promote freedom and democracy, end poverty, and combat international crime and terrorism.

I couldn't agree more.

But lately, some of the President's actions are at odds with his rhetoric. The first principle of the President's initiative against corruption is to deny entry into the United States to kleptocrats, meaning high-level officials engaged in or benefitting from corruption. Yet in recent months the administration has welcomed two of the world's most notorious kleptocrats: Teodoro Obiang, the President of Equatorial Guinea, and Nursultan Nazarbayev, the President of Kazakhstan.

What do these two men have in common besides corrupt dictatorships? Oil. Both control their nations' vast oil resources. Both supply oil to the United States. By welcoming these corrupt